

Workshop: Combined Certification and Maintenance

Abstracts

Repair Data Approvals:

This workshop will review the outcome of the FAA/JAA ad hoc group on repair data, and the response to the group's recommendations by Europe and the FAA. It will also address the EASA Executive Director's January 2004 decision on the acceptance of repair data from the United States. Finally, FAA will share its planned activities related to possible future repair data acceptance in other countries.

Fuel Tank Safety: Are We Ready for Flammability Reduction Systems?:

This discussion provides an update of fuel system safety initiatives including plans to incorporate flammability reduction systems on large transport airplanes. The hazards associated with ignition of fuel vapors within fuel tanks of large transport airplanes has been underscored by three accidents in the 1990's and early 2000's involving two Boeing Model 737's and one Boeing Model 747. Although it was concluded that an explosion had occurred in the center fuel tank in each of these accidents, no precise ignition source was ever identified. As a consequence of these accidents, information gathered during their investigations and FAA fuel tank safety initiatives (SFAR 88), it became apparent to the FAA that ignition prevention measures alone may not be sufficient to achieve the desired level of safety for certain fuel tanks which have been found to exhibit a high level of flammability over significant portions of the flight envelope. For these tanks an additional layer of protection is now considered both desirable and practical. This discussion provides an update of fuel system safety initiatives including plans to incorporate flammability reduction systems on large transport airplanes. Europe will also update its plans related to fuel tank safety

Aging Aircraft Initiatives:

FAA - This presentation will provide a summary of the FAA plan to realign the aging airplane rulemaking initiatives. Those initiatives were originally developed independently. Many of those initiatives require operators to revise their maintenance programs to include new or revised maintenance actions developed by design approval holders. The FAA reviewed the compliance requirements, affected airplane populations and other aspects of these initiatives and developed a plan to better align them. The FAA is now implementing this plan, which will minimize costs and impact to industry while ensuring safety.